

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Optical transceivers have loopback and pass-through paths for diagnosing transceiver components and optical networks connected to the optical transceiver or for routing data out of the transceiver in a pass-through mode. The loopback paths are selectively configured so that a selected number of the components in the transceiver are included in the loopback path. Where more than one loopback path is present, a network administrator can select which components will be included in a particular test so that, depending on whether a signal is returned on the loopback path as intended, the network administrator can determine which components are operating correctly and which are faulty. The loopbacks can be configured to run on the electrical side of the transceiver from input port to output port or on the optical side from receiver to transmitter. The pass-through paths can be used to connect the transceiver to other devices.

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